

2025–26 Victorian State Budget

The Hon. Ros Spence MP
Minister for Carers and Volunteers

11 June 2025

Portfolio overview



+\$74m

provided since 2020 to deliver more food relief to Victorians in need.



560,000+

hours of support provided by neighbourhood houses to communities in 2024-25.



516

grants provided to men's sheds across Victoria since 2015.



+13,250

unpaid carers supported annually with more than **260,000** hours of respite, counselling and support available in 2024-25.



+3,500

Victorians provided with no-interest loans through 80 locations across the state.



Key achievements over the past 12 months

In 2024-25, the portfolio has continued to strengthen economic and social participation and supports across Victoria:

- › More than **\$43 million** annually for the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program
- › Over **\$22 million** annually for the Support for Carers Program, and a further **\$9.5 million** each year to provide additional respite for unpaid carers
- › **116** grants provided through the first round of the **\$4.5 million** Community Food Relief Program
- › **\$3.7 million** annually for the Good Money Program, supporting thousands of Victorians experiencing financial hardship
- › Grants of up to **\$100,000** for **29** men's sheds
- › Recognising volunteers through the Volunteering Awards and funding a newly released State of Volunteering Report.



Continuing to address food insecurity

The 2025-26 Victorian State Budget delivers:

- › A significant investment of **\$18 million over 3 years** to strengthen food security across Victoria, including:
 - › continuing and expanding support for **6 regional foodshares** in Albury-Wodonga, Shepparton, Mildura, Bendigo, Warrnambool and Geelong; and shared services delivered through the Regional Food Security Alliance
 - › delivering a second, larger round of the **Community Food Relief Program** providing grants to frontline organisations
 - › **boosting charity freight services** in regional Victoria via Foodbank Victoria through its network of charity partners
 - › supporting **Foodbank Victoria's new GROW program** to divert surplus fresh farm produce to food relief services.



Continuing to address cost of living pressures

The 2025-26 Victorian State Budget also delivers:

- › **\$5.1 million over 4 years** to expand the Good Money Program, supporting around **1,500** additional Victorians each year facing financial stress with no-interest loans, budgeting advice and referrals.
- › The new investment will:
 - » deliver an additional Good Money store (bringing the total to **5**)
 - » expand Good Shepherd's No-Interest Loans Coordination Scheme, currently delivered by community providers at **80** locations across the state.
- › The program is delivered in a unique partnership between Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, Victorian Government and National Australia Bank.



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